G. R. S. 59]

(43)

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1908
(Gen. Mis.)

File No. 184 of 1906-07

Serial Nos. 41-43

Papers Filed.

Month October

SUBJECT.

Tour of H.H. the Sringeri Jagadguru
(Enquiry into the allegations against the Taluk officials in connection with the visit of the Sringeri Swami to Maddigiri)

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REFERENCES.

G.R.S. 11] 1907-08

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(Jeu Mis)

NOTES.

File. No. 184 06-07

FILE HEADING.

Tour of H.H. the Sriujeri Jagadguru

From

Rev E.W. Thompson, Edtr. Vritanta Patrika Mysore

No. Letter Dated 21.5.08 Received 26.5.08

Diary No. 5205	Enclos. 5	Spare Copies.	Serial No. 41

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Yes Y

Request to reconsideration for reasons given of the decision of Govt contained in letter no G1255 & 15.8. to the Editor Mysore Star, stating that there is no truth in the allegations made in the Vritanta Patrika of 2.5.07 the regarding levy of forced contributions in the Nandagini Tu during the visit of H.H. the Sringeri Jagadguru.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

NOTES—First sheet.

GPB—30,000—20-3-06.

DS 205

Serial No.

Put up
Letter &
file. Return
with letter
26/5/08

My dear Balasundaram Esq. 26/5/08

The Dewan
asks me to send the enclosed
(letter from Rev E. W. Thompson), to you for
being dealt with in the usual course.
He desires that a reply may be sent to
the Rev Mr Thompson acknowledging
receipt of the letter & saying that the
matter is receiving attention

Yours sincerely
[illegible]

The connected file is put up.
Draft reply submitted

Reg
27/5/08

MR
27.5.08

1) Issue -
2) Please get the original records from Dr Thomson

KBR 27/5/08

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Gen. File No. 084 of 1906-7.

Serial No. 25-205

Submitted with a D.O. requesting the D.C. Tumkur to send the requisite records.

Gen.
1/6/08

Issue
1/6

1-6-08 Do. issued - No. G. 7128 of 4. 6. 08

Gen
6/6/08

NOTE—Contn sheet.

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

G. Dr. File No. 184 of 1906-7.

6

D 5364

D 5364.

No: C. 110.

TUMKUR

5th June 1908.

Dear Balasundaram Iyer

Your D. O. of yesterday. I am sending you registered separately the papers in re the allegations of forced contributions in connection with the visit of the SRINGERI JAGAD GURU to Maddagiri.

If further elucidations are wanted I shall be happy to supply them. I am putting up herewith for ready reference copies of previous D. O. letters.

Yours sincerely
K. Rangaswamy Iyer

C.S.Balasundaram Iyer Esqr., B.A.,
Under Secretary to Government.

Subd. The facts of the case are detailed on pages 17 to 23 of the notes in the collection below.

8-6-08 8/6/08

NOTE—Contu sheet.

GPB—50,000—17-3-07

Serial No.

The Vruttanta Patrike dated the 2nd May 1907 published a correspondence from Maddagiri that contributions were being forcibly collected under the direction of the Amildar at certain rates on account of the visit of His Holiness, the Sringeri Jagadguru, and that the ryots were complaining that they had not only to pay money but also give straw and other articles gratis. In short it accused the Amildar and his subordinates of forced and illegal exactions on the occasion of the visit of His Holiness.

The Editor of the Mysore Star forwarded a cutting of this article to Govt and requested to be informed if the Amildar of Maddagiri Taluk was in any way authorised by the Govt to collect forced subscriptions from the ryots of his Taluk for the benefit of Sri Sringeri Swamy as alleged therein. He was informed

NOTE—Contn sheet.

Serial No.

submitted by the Apt Commr.

The papers received from the deputy Commr include among others the report of the Apt Commr which is asked to be referred. It will be convenient to deal seriatim with the objections to the memorandum urged by the Editor in his letter dated the 21st May 1908.

(1) The first para of the memorandum is said to be irrelevant as the Reception Committee formed at Maddagiri might have been competent to supervise the arrangements in the town of Maddagiri but it is incredible that it either did or could supervise the arrangements over the whole Taluk and in distant and sometimes inaccessible villages. This is an introductory paragraph. The Editor does not deny the fact of a Reception Committee having been formed for the purpose. It was necessary to refer

GPB—50 000—17-3-07

Serial No.

(ii) The next objection taken to the memorandum is that para 2 thereof does not contain a correct representation of facts, that it was not likely that the Amildar would be approached for the redress of grievances for which he himself was believed to be responsible, that the Apt Comr received several well-substantiated complaints of unlawful exaction and that the Editor is informed ~~beyond~~ on reliable evidence that the country side at the time was rife with such complaints. In support of this, the Editor refers to a meeting alleged to have been convened by the Amildar in Hodagedal Police Station of Shanbhog and Patels from the adjoining villages, in which the Amildar himself assessed the villages at certain amounts and directed the village officials to recover those sums and would not hear any representation by the village

GPB—50 000—17-3-07

Serial No.

officials of their inability to collect as much as was assessed - The unfortunate case of death of a man in Siddanahally by some blows given by the Patel when the former objected to the latter taking some straw from the Hitul is also referred to as proving the unjust exactions. The Amildar denies that he convened any meeting at Kodagadalu Police Station or anywhere else, and states that when he was at Kodagadalu supervising revenue collections, he met some Patels and Shanbhogs and informed them of the proposed visit of His Holiness and that he did the same at Midegesi in the presence of the Apt Comr at the time of Huzur Jamabandy and subsequently when official work took him that side again. Regarding the amounts alleged to have been assessed by him for the different villages, he says that in order to exercise supervision

GPD—50 000—17-3-07

Serial No.

and prevent misappropriation, he considered it desirable to ascertain and note down for his own information how much was likely to be recovered from each village and beyond noting down the approximate figures, he did not take any steps in regard to the collection of the amounts. The statements of the witnesses examined by the Apl Comr go to shew that some of the Patels and Shanbhogs attended the meeting convened in Maddagiri and agreed to collect whatever they could to offer to His Holiness. There is nothing to shew that the Amildar made an improper use of his powers as such and forced the people to subscribe anything against their will. The Apl Comr believes the statements of some of the witnesses that the Amildar directed thereafter the village officers to collect a certain sum of money and also a certain quantity of grass,

GPB—50 000—17-3-07

Serial No.

fuel &c and that when it was represented that the sum was too much, he reduced it. The Apt Comr thinks however that though the sum fixed for each village annually might have been small and what could have been voluntarily contributed, the way in which it was collected cannot be said to be above question. The way in which ~~he~~ it was collected he does not describe, and he only presumes that "when a sum is fixed and the village officials are required to collect the same, one cannot be sure that it is collected invariably from voluntary hands or that no scope will be left to them for fraud; force or questionable persuasion". He does not clearly find that any questionable means were actually employed for collecting money or grass or fuel &c. He is positive however that there was no dishonesty or fraud on the part of

GPB—50 000—17-3-07

Serial No.

in the eyes of the public and being criticised in the Press and called upon by the Superior authorities for an explanation of his conduct in favour of His Holiness of the Sringeri Mutt.

The Editor says that the Apt Coun. received several well-substantiated complaints of unlawful exaction but the latter's report makes no mention of them. He further says that he is informed on reliable evidence that the country-side was ripe with such complaints. The evidence ~~which~~ has not been set forth in the letter to enable us to see how far it is reliable. The single instance of the case of death in Siddapalli cannot be taken to prove that there was any general unjust exactions.

(iii) The Editor respectfully submits that his correspondent had full justification for what he wrote and that his allegations

GPB—50,000—17-3-67

Serial No.

I shall be glad to have the views of Mr Balasundaram Iyer (who was off as Secy at the time the reply of Govt was sent). and a draft of a brief reply to the Collr Thompson.

13/6/08

Forwarded to Mr. Balasundaram Iyer.

15.6.08. Wll

I put up herewith a draft of a reply touching on the points referred in Mr Thompson's letter. There is nothing blameworthy in the conduct of the amildar so far as can be seen. ~~In the utmost~~ It is no doubt true that he took considerable interest in the arrangements and that he spoke to the patels & Shanbogs in the matter of subscriptions, though there is nothing to suggest that he exerted any kind of pressure on them or in any way forced them to collect subscriptions of any fixed amount for each village. He also took precautions to see that amounts collected were not misappropriated by the intermediary agents.

NOTE—Contn sheet.

GPB—50,00017—3-07

Serial No.

It may be that the patels & Shanbogs took his suggestions as commands & tried to collect the amounts they promised. In collecting subscriptions from villagers it may be that some patels & Shanbogs recovered at so much per house or plough &c, leaving very little discretion to individual ryots. Still there is nothing to show that any persons were forced to contribute against their will & that any specific complaints to that effect were made or that the amildar refused to listen to any such complaints.

Mr Anandrao Hisi

The asst Commr says in his report that the amildar acted with a certain amount of overzeal & want of tact but

Mr KS. Narasimhyer

the Dy Commr is of a different opinion & strongly supports the amildar & justifies his conduct.

CSB 17/6/08

Draft orders to Govt for appl.

(Seen) 9/6/08

Note—Contn sheet.

GPB—50 000—17-3-07

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G.R.S. 26] **File No.**

Serial No.

*Diary No. of letter replied to*_____

No.

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

, *the* 190

To

_____

Date of issue _____

Signed by _____

Sir,

I am directed to reply to your letter dy 21 May 1908 making certain observations regarding the ~~the manner in which subscriptions & donations were collected~~ alleged illegal exaction of donations on the occasion of the visit of the Sri Sringeri Swami to the Maddagiri Taluk in ~~May~~ April 1907.

In the first place you observe that the first para of the memo of 11 Dec^{r} 07

over.

SUBJECT.

2) not relevant to the matter
in issue - ~~With regard to~~
as no complaint was
made by your correspondent with regard
to the arrangements in
Maddagiri itself. With
reference to this, I am to
say that the ~~first~~ letters in
the Vrittanta Patike of
the 11 April & 2 May 07
omit all reference to the
Reception committee in
Maddagiri & convey the
impression that the
amildar was responsible
for all the arrangements
all over the taluk, not
excluding Maddagiri, that
he levied certain subscriptions at certain rate,
expended the amount &
disposed (in a certain
manner of a superfluous
stock of articles.

The existence of the Committee
& the fact that all donations ~~of~~
~~money~~ in cash or kind were

List of enclosures

Copied by

Examined by

GPB—3,000—1-3-07

made over ~~it~~ to it ~~by~~ &
expended by it ~~puts quite~~
~~a different face over the whole~~
~~matter~~ renders the case
very different from what
the letter in the Patrika lead
one to expect. The reference
to the Reception Committee
in the memo of 11 Dec^r 07 will
thus be seen to be quite
pertinent to the matter in
issue.

You next proceed to
Comment on para 2 of the
memo & ~~say that you are~~
~~unable to accept it as a~~
~~correct & complete Statement~~
~~of the facts~~ with reference
to your remarks I am to
observe that on the materials
available to them Govt come
to the conclusion that the
Amildar neither initiated nor
countenanced any illegal
exactions & that the steps he
took were intended to secure
the people from such exactions
by unscrupulous ~~the~~ village
Officers or others & to see that

Any donations voluntarily collected realized were not misappropriated. Govt see no reason to disbelieve the statement of the amildar nor do they think it unlikely that if there had been any illegal exactions complaints would have been made either to the amildar or the asstt Commr.

As regards the Siddanhalle incident, the patel was in no way authorised to collect grass without payment & he has been suitably punished for this reckless assault committed by him. It does not follow from this incident that the amildar or other officials were responsible for any gross irregularities or that such irregularities did occur. It is not clear on what grounds you state that the asstt Commr received several well substantiated complaints of unlawful exaction as such a circumstance does not appear from the Govt's own available to Govt.

As regards the meeting at Kodagadal it is understood that the amildar merely ascertained from the patels & Shanbogs the probable amounts that might be collected in their villages & that he neither asked the village officers nor intended to ask them to collect any specified sum from each village or to levy it in any particular manner other than by collecting voluntary Donations. It is not impossible that certain village officers misunderstood or misinterpreted the amildar's instructions and that they levied contributions in a somewhat arbitrary manner & from some people against their will. There is no reason to suppose that the amildar in any way countenanced this or that he would not have taken needful action on complaints if any had been made to him.

G.R.S. 27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(*Continuation Sheet draft form.*)

In the absence of details it is not possible to say whether any Govt servants & especially the amildar – on whom the articles in the newspaper mainly reflect – were parties to any such exactions, but so far as Govt can judge they do not see any reason to think that the amildar or other responsible officials were guilty of any such illegal exactions.

As regards my letter of the ~~to~~ to the editor of the Mysore Star to the terms of which you take exception, I am to say that it was not ~~intended~~ to impugn your veracity ~~or bona~~ that ~~could you mean (or meant only intended to mean~~ that the allegations in the articles ~~which were directed~~ regarding the conduct of the amildar were ~~devoid of foundation~~ ~~having~~ very much distorted & one sided ~~statement~~ and to that extent devoid of foundation.

In conclusion I am to say that Govt have once again perused ~~the~~ all the

papers and they ~~see now~~ are satisfied that there ~~is~~ was nothing blameworthy in the conduct of the ~~Co~~ amildar & that the precautions he took had the effect of preventing oppression misappropriation & fraud by unscrupulous persons.

I have &c.

17/6

G.R.S. 13]

16

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

5364

File No 184 of 1906.

Submitted to Secretary -

The Dewan desires that these papers may kindly be brought up in person by Mr Ba- Lasundaram Iyer -

5/9/08 Nilgiris

Do Under Secy

8/9/08

To Secy with Dewan -

I have put up a short D.O. reply on the lines suggested by the Dewan when I submitted the file to him personally some days ago. CSB

10504 2/9/08 (Bhavani)

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

GPB—30,000—11-4 06

Wesleyan Mission,
Mysore City.
Sept 25.08.

V.P.Madhava Rao Esq., C.I.E.,
Dewan to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Dear Sir,

On May 21 st I sent to the Government, in accordance with your personal request, a statement dealing with the allegations made in the "Vrittanta Patrike" against officials of the Madhugiri Taluk . I received in June an acknowledgement of the receipt of the statement, and was informed that the matter w as receiving the attention of the Government. Three months have since elapsed , but no further communication has reached me. I shall be glad to be informed what is the decision of the Government with regard to the representations I have made to it.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. W. Thompson

(Editor Vrittanta Patrike)

Subd to Secretary.

The draft reply to Mr Thomp-
-son has been approved & the file re-
-turned. The reply to Mr Thompson may kindly
-subd - be ordered to be despatched early —
29.9.08

G.R.S. 13]

27

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Gen: this file 184-06.

Submitted to Secretary

When passing orders on this file the Dewan observed that he would like the expression "the Dewan" being omitted in such communications. &c.

Noted
GB
1/10/08

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

GPB—30,000—11-4-06

5364

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

For File No. 184 of 1906-07)

Serial No. 43

To the Rev Eso Thompson M.A, Editor of the Mitavadi patrike, Mysore — No. C. 226) dated the 5th Oct 1906 ——.

Informs him that the Govt have again perused the papers connected with the alleged illegal exaction of donations on the occasion of the visit of the Sri Sringeri Swami to the Naddapini Dg in April 1906 & find that there is nothing to show that the Amildar or other authorities levied any such contributions from anybody & that, a full enquiry having been made by the local officers in the matter, Govt do not consider anything is to be gained by further pursuing the subject.

Say the Dg Commr's Office file in the subject received with his D.O. letter No. C. 1110 Dg. 5-6-06 be returned? Draft returning it is however put-

up
Dg.
14/11

Issue
8/11
1911

D.O. issued. vide Rs G. 3089 Dg/19.11.06

7
23/11/08

NOTE—Contn sheet.

GPB—50 000—17-3-07

V Notes

G.R.S. 26]

File No.

Serial No

Diary No. of letter replied to 5364

Dll No. C. 3089
Encl. file

General and Rev. Secretariat
( )
, *the* 190 .

To

The Dy Com
Trincomalee

Date of issue 19.11.08

Signed by Mr C.S. Balasundaram
Ag GA

Dear Sir,

I return herewith the file of your Office regarding the alleged illegal erection of donations by the Buildings of Maddagiri on the occasion of the visit of Sir Sri Jeri Swami to that place in April last year forwarded for reference with your letter No. 110 dated the 5th June last. (Please acknowledge its receipt).

Yours Sd

over.

VS

SUBJECT.

Mudaliyar Tyrdaram 18.11.08

in reply to two letters of mine, dated August 24th and Sept 28th, asking whether Government would be pleased to make a further and fuller statement on the matter and furnish a summary of the evidence on which it had been declared that there was no truth in the allegation made by the Correspondent of the "Vittaeuka Patrika." The Government was pleased to furnish such a statement in its Memorandum of December 11th, 1907. I now have the honour of repeating and submitting in writing to Your Consideration the observations on the whole case and this Memorandum, which I made in our personal interview.

(1) The first paragraph states that "the public seem to have convened a meeting and appointed a Reception Committee ... to generally supervise the arrangements connected with the reception of His Highness." The use of the words "seem to have" implies a doubt as to whether such a meeting was actually convened or not, but it is unnecessary to ask for further information on this point. The Reception Committee might have been competent to supervise the arrangements in the town of Maddagiri, but it is incredible that either did or could supervise the arrangements over the whole track and in distant & sometimes inaccessible villages. It is difficult to imagine that this is suggested; and inasmuch as the Correspondent of the "Vittaeuka Patrika" made no charges with

reference to the arrangements in Maddagiri itself, the above paragraph appears to be irrelevant.

(2) The second paragraph consists of a statement, made apparently on the evidence of the Amildar, that he - the Amildar - gave orders to the village officials to collect the necessary supplies on payment and to obtain coolies for voluntary offerings in cash or in kind from the manner of the Reception Committee; and that no complaints were addressed to him during the course of his tours in the Taluk at the time.

I regret that I am unable to accept this statement as a correct or complete representation of the facts. It is not likely that the Amildar would be approached for the orders of assistance, for which he himself was believed to be responsible. On the other hand the Assistant Commissioner, appointed subsequently by him. ment to conduct an enquiry, received several well substantiated complaints of unlawful exaction, and I am informed on reliable evidence that the Countryside at the time was rife with such complaints.

I will cite, however, one particular incident as illustrative of the methods, indicated by the Amildar and followed by the village officials under his orders. In April the Amildar convened a meeting of Shanbogs and Patels from the adjoining villages at Kodagadalpiccagation. The Amildar himself assessed the

villages at certain amounts, and the attempt was made by the subordinate village officials to realise these sums by collecting in some cases from persons who protested against the imposition and were told that it was made by order of the higher authorities. There is no trace in this proceeding of a spontaneous and voluntary action on the part of the public.

(3) The third paragraph deals with the case of homicide at Siddanahalli. The account of this incident given in the memorandum does not contradict that of the "Vittanta Patrike", but rather confirms it in all main features. There is a difference only in the omission of some details and the inclusion of others. The statement of the "Patrike" is confirmed that the dispute arose between the Patel and the Sirigayat over a bundle of straw, which the Patel was taking away; but the memorandum is silent as to the relevant fact that this collection of supplies was being made for the Government of the Sarirgeri Matta.

This one incident is sufficient to show that some grave irregularities did occur, and that the action of the Amildar and the minor officials was not limited to directing and co-operating with the voluntary action of the public.

(4) The fourth paragraph confirms the statement of the "Vittanta Patrike" that there was a large surplus of supplies at Maddagiri, while it differs in its account of the way in which

his surplus can to be disposed of.

It is not possible to regard the Memorandum as an explanation of the letter sent to the "Anyone Else"; for the Memorandum confirms in several important respects the allegations made by the correspondent of the "Vittanda Patrika." The letter stated that Government were satisfied that "No contributions other than voluntary were collected during the Swamiji's visit," and that "there was no truth in the allegations made in the "Vittanda Patrika"." It is obvious that these two universal propositions, which the Government could find it difficult or impossible to substantiate, even if they were true; and no particular instance to the contrary is sufficient to disprove either of them. The Siddapalli case is only an instance, and I have further adduced the action of the Amildar in convening the meeting at the Kodagadal Police Station.

I beg to recognise gratefully that, in contradistinction to the interview, you were good enough to admit that the wording of the letter was inexpedient and unfortunate, and that there was some amount of truth in the allegations made by the "Vittanda Patrika." I respectfully submit that our correspondent had some justification for what he wrote, and that his allegations are substantially true. It was admitted by you to have been an improper and unjudicial procedure for the Secretariat to issue a statement, declaring a newspaper to have been guilty of

misleading falsehoods, without even giving the newspaper the opportunity of explaining or substantiating its statements. The "Vittaveda Patrika" was condemned without being asked or heard.

But I do not wish to press this appeal of mine. I am not concerned for the reputation of the "Vittaveda Patrika". The main issue is the purity of the public service and the defence of the ryots from spoliation. The charges made in the "Vittaveda Patrika" amount to this that the Amildar and certain village officials of the Maddagiri Taluk exceed both their duty and their powers in the collection of contributions in money and supplies in kind for the establishment of the Antigeri Matt. There is no one more anxious and careful than His Highness the Maharaja Himself that His loyal subjects should not be made the occasion of exaction from their Sovereign declared in its published Regulations. The complaint made in the "Vittaveda Patrika" is that those Regulations were violated both in the letter and in the spirit.

I, therefore, respectfully request that an order will issue for the Report, submitted by the Assistant Commissioner, appointed to conduct the enquiry, and for all other papers connected with this case, and will reminder the whole matter; and meanwhile I shall await the communication of your decision in the hope that the truth will be established.

I am the honour, Sir, to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

S. N. Thompson

(Editor, "Vittaveda Patrika")

Correspondence in the Vrittanta Patrike.

A. APRIL 11,1907. Several days ago the Maddagiri Amildar , having summoned the principal men of the various villages ,through the pat-els and shambogs, informed them that the Sringeri Guru was coming. Having made an assessment,according to the condition ,size &c of each village,of 40,50 or 70 rupees, he instructed them to collect and remit the money. If the disciples of the Guru were to give accord-ing to their devotion and ability, it would be well. This is the time for the ryots to pay their khandayam. One must affirm that they suffer inconvenience by this arrangement. It would have been better if the chief men had been called, and they had brought together all the people in their villages and the Amildar had taken what each man gave.

B. MAY 3,1907. It was written once in this newspaper that the Amildar made arrangements for certain fixed sums to be collected for His Holiness the Sringeri Swami from the ryots of each village. The method of this collection was as follows - in some villages they have collected according to the rank and condition of the people,in several villages at ten annas per plough, for those who have no ploughs from four annas to two annas (per head), in some other villages like the local fund collection at six pies per rupee of khandayam.

Put besides this, many ryots ,seeing that grass and other things are being taken without payment from each village for the supply of the Swami, complain:-"Beside giving money from our hand , must we throw in a gift of grass as well? This is a rare compulsion."

As an example of this kind of thing- Ramegowda, patel of the village of Siddanahalli, was collecting grass from ryots, and came

h the Toti and Talawar to the yard of Siddanajappa , a Lingayat M. thada Ayya, of that village.He(the Patel) was getting some bundles of grass tied up , when the above-mentioned Lingayat came in and said:-"I have no grass. I have got a little by begging. One bundle is enough for you." Because he objected thus, it is known that the Patel got angry, seized his juttu, twisted it, flung him down and struck him a blow, and that he (Siddananjappa) died within a few hours, and that, this matter having been reported to the higher authorities, the Amildar, Police Inspector, and Hospital Assistant, came and took evidence as to what had occurred, that the corpse was buried according to order after a post-mortem at Maddagiri, and that the Patel was placed in the Lock-up. It is impossible to describe the grief of the mother of the dead man and of his elder brother and relatives. Many feel sorrow that a young man of 25 should have died.

(From another Correspondent) We learn that the Amildar asked the Swami for permission to sell by auction the surplus grass and firewood which had come for supply and to give the money to him, and that the Swami gave instructions that it should be used on SriSankarā chārya's worship day for feeding Brahmans. We learn that on the 28 th the grass and firewood was sold by auction and that because the bids stopped at about Rs 100, the auction was closed at a round sum of Rs. 50. Though the Amildar does not belong to the same religion , the zeal displayed and all the arrangements made are most praiseworthy.

Copy of letter , published in the "Mysore Star" of August 19,1907.

From C.S.Balasundaram Iyer Esq.B.A.,

Offg. Sec. to the Govt. of H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore,

Gen. & Rev. Depts.

To the Editor, " Mysore Star " , Mysore.

Bangalore , August 15, 1907.

Sir,

With reference to your letter, No.651, dated 17 th July, 1907, on the subject of the alleged exaction of subscriptions by Amildar of Maddagiri in connection with the tour of His Holiness the Sringeri Guru , I am directed to inform you that on enquiries made , Government are satisfied that no contributions other than voluntary were collected during the Swami's visit and that there is no truth made in the allegations made in the Vrittanta Patrike of the 2 nd March,1907.

I have the honour to be , Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C.S.Balasundaram Iyer.

(Offg. Sec. to Govt.)

D.

From

C. S. Balasundaram Iyer Esquire, B.A.,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore, Genl. and Rev. Depts.

To The Editor, Vrittanta Patrika,
Mysore.

Bangalore dated the 28th September 1907

Genl and Rev.
Secretariat

Sir.

With reference to your letter of the 24th instant, requesting that an early reply may be given to your letter of the 24th August last asking whether Government would be pleased to furnish fuller information about its enquiry into the irregularities alleged by a correspondent of the "Vrittanta Patrika" to have taken place in connection with the recent visit of the Sringeri Guru to the Maddagiri Taluk I have the honour to state that a reply will be sent soon.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

K. Mylar Rao
for Secretary to Government

E. 01

From C. S. Balasundaram Iyer Esquire, B.A.,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore, Genl. and Rev. Depts.

To

Reverend E. W. Thompson M.A.,
Editor, Vrittanta Patrika, Mysore.
Dated Bangalore, the 11th December 1907

Genl. and Rev.
Secretariat.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated
the 24th August 1907 requesting that a
summary of the evidence on which the
allegations of your correspondent regarding
the alleged exactions during the recent
of His Holiness the Jagad-Guru of the
Sringeri Matt to Maddagiri were
declared false, I am directed to
forward herewith a memo showing
the facts of the case.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
K. Mylar Rao
For Offg. Secretary to Government

Memo:-

As soon as news reached Maddagere of the intended visit of His Excellency the Sirungeri Jagad Guru to the place, the public seem to have considered a meeting and appointed a Reception Committee to collect donations and to generally supervise the arrangements connected with the reception of His Excellency.

About November 1906, in accordance with instructions received from Government the Amildar of Maddagere ordered all Patels that supplies of grass, fuel beasts, oxen, tailors etc. should be arranged for on the line of course of His tours in the Taluk. The Amildar found that the ryots were desirous of voluntarily contributing some supplies in kind to His Excellency's Camp free of any charge, considering it a religious duty to make such offerings. The Amildar then instructed the village officials concerned to keep regular accounts of such receipts either in cash or kind and deliver them to the Treasurer duly appointed by the Reception Committee and obtain vouchers from him. During the period of the visit of His Excellency the Amildar and the Divisional Assistant Commissioner were constantly moving about among the people, and not a single complaint was made to either of them about any Exactions.

As to the homicide at Siddavattalu the Shekdar of the place had issued an order to the Patel for the purchase of a quantity of grass. The Patel was a violent tempered man and appears to have had an altercation with the deceased about the quantity of grass and in the course thereof gave him

some blows. The latter had a diseased heart, an enlarged spleen, and a generally debilitated constitution and died six hours afterwards. The Patel was duly tried for the commission and sentenced to 10 months' rigorous imprisonment by the First Class Magistrate of Maddagiri.

After the Honours the Inspectress left Maddagiri Talak a stock of articles valued at Rs. 100 of Rs. 120 remained over. It was offered back to the contributors, but they refused to take back what they had once given as charity, especially to the Hall of the Honours. It was therefore sold by public auction, and a sum of Rs. 105 realised, as the disposal of which instructions are now awaited by the Member.

K. Rajah Rao
for Sec. Secretary to Government

G.R.S. 29A]

190 .

From

Secy. to the Govt. of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Genl. and Rev. Dept.

To Rev E. W. Thompson
Editor Vrittanta Patrika
Mysore

Dated

Despatched

Received

General No. G. 7063 dy 28.5.'08

Epn. No. 184-06-42

Enclosure No.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st May 1908 regarding the allegations made in the Vrittanta Patrika ~~of the 2nd instant~~, copy of, of forced contributions ~~levied~~ in the Maddagiri Taluk during the visit of His Highness the Yuvaraja and

Copied FR. 28/5

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to state that the matter
is ~~receiving~~ receiving attention

Thank you

CSB

Yours sincerely

NSL
27-5-08

15524

G.R.S. 26]

Jm. File No. 184 — 06
Serial No. 43

Diary No. of letter replied to 5364

No. G. 2267

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the 190 .

To

Date of issue 5-10-06

Signed by W C S Balasundaram

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter dy 21 May 06 addressed to the Dewan regarding the alleged illegal exaction of donations on the occasion of the visit of the Sri Sringeri Swami to the Maddagiri Taluk in April 1907. I am directed to say that the ~~Dewan~~ Govt have again perused the papers on the subject and find that there is nothing to show that the Amildar or other authorities levied any forced contributions

over.

SUBJECT.

9/10/06 Forwarded 11/10/06

File

from any persons & that all that the amildar did was to ensure that voluntary contributions made by villagers reached the Central Committee without any speculation. I am also to say that a full enquiry has been made by local offices and Govt do not think anything is to be gained by ~~any~~ further pursuing the subject.

Yours faithfully
W. Lee Warner
Secr.

C873
24/9/05

The Rev. E. W. Thompson

List of enclosures.

Copied by

Examined by

MGCPB—30,000—16-2-05